

this section, Customs may request, and the applicant shall provide, any of the information listed in paragraph (a)(1)(iii)(A)(i) through (3) of this section. In making its decision to approve or deny the application under this section, Customs will consider factors such as, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Information provided by the claimant in the written application;
- (2) Any of the information listed in paragraph (a)(1)(iii)(A)(i) through (3) of this section and requested by Customs under this paragraph; and
- (3) The applicant's prior record with Customs.

(c) *Time for Customs action.* Customs will notify the applicant in writing within 90 days after receipt of the application of its decision to approve or deny the application, or of Customs inability to approve, deny or act on the application and the reason therefor.

(d) *Appeal of denial of application.* If Customs denies the application, the applicant may file a written appeal with the drawback office which issued the denial, provided that the applicant files this appeal within 30 days of the date of denial. If Customs denies this initial appeal, the applicant may file a further written appeal with Customs Headquarters, Office of Field Operations, Office of Trade Operations, provided that the applicant files this further appeal within 30 days of the denial date of the initial appeal. Customs may extend the 30 day period for appeal to the drawback office or to Customs Headquarters, for good cause, if the applicant applies in writing for such extension within the appropriate 30 day period above.

(e) *Future intent to export unused merchandise.* If an applicant states it will have future exportations on which unused merchandise drawback may be claimed (see paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(B) of this section), the applicant will be informed of the procedures for waiver of prior notice (see § 191.91 of this part). If the applicant seeks waiver of prior notice under § 191.91, any documentation submitted to Customs to comply with this section will be included in the request under § 191.91. An applicant which states that it will have future exportations on which unused merchandise

drawback may be claimed (see paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(B) of this section) and which does not obtain waiver of prior notice shall notify Customs of its intent to export prior to each such exportation, in accordance with § 191.35.

§ 191.37 Destruction under Customs supervision.

A claimant may destroy merchandise and obtain unused merchandise drawback by complying with the procedures set forth in § 191.71 of this part relating to destruction.

§ 191.38 Records.

(a) *Maintained by claimant; by others.* Pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1508(c)(3), all records which are necessary to be maintained by the claimant under this part with respect to drawback claims, and records kept by others to complement the records of the claimant, which are essential to establish compliance with the legal requirements of 19 U.S.C. 1313(j)(1) or (j)(2), as applicable, and this part with respect to drawback claims, shall be retained for 3 years after payment of such claims (under 19 U.S.C. 1508, the same records may be subject to a different retention period for different purposes).

(b) *Accounting for the merchandise.* Merchandise subject to drawback under 19 U.S.C. 1313(j)(1) and (j)(2) shall be accounted for in a manner which will enable the claimant:

- (1) To determine, and Customs to verify, the applicable import entry or certificate of delivery;
- (2) To determine, and Customs to verify, the applicable exportation or destruction; and
- (3) To identify with respect to the import entry or certificate of delivery, the imported duty-paid merchandise.

Subpart D—Rejected Merchandise

§ 191.41 Rejected merchandise drawback.

Section 313(c) of the Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1313(c)), provides for drawback upon the exportation or destruction under Customs supervision of imported merchandise which has been entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption, duty-paid; and which

does not conform to sample or specifications; has been shipped without the consent of the consignee; or has been determined to be defective as of the time of importation. The claimant must show by evidence satisfactory to Customs that the exported or destroyed merchandise was defective at the time of importation, or was not in accordance with sample or specifications, or was shipped without the consent of the consignee (see subpart P for drawback of internal-revenue taxes for unmerchantable or nonconforming distilled spirits, wines, or beer).

§ 191.42 Procedure.

(a) *Return to Customs custody.* The claimant must return the merchandise to Customs custody within 3 years after the date the merchandise was originally released from Customs custody. Drawback will be denied on merchandise returned to Customs custody after the statutory 3-year time period or exported or destroyed without return to Customs custody.

(b) *Required documentation.* The claimant shall submit documentation to the drawback office as part of the drawback claim to establish that the merchandise did not conform to sample or specification, was shipped without the consent of the consignee, or was defective as of the time of importation. If the claimant was not the importer, the claimant must:

(1) Submit a statement signed by the importer and every other person, other than the ultimate purchaser, that owned the goods that no other claim for drawback was made on the goods by any other person; and

(2) Certify that records are available to support the statement required in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(c) *Notice.* A notice of intent to export or destroy merchandise which may be the subject of a rejected merchandise drawback claim (19 U.S.C. 1313(c)) must be provided to the Customs Service to give Customs the opportunity to examine the merchandise. The claimant, or the exporter (for destruction, see § 191.44), must file at the port of intended redelivery to Customs custody a Notice of Intent to Export, Destroy, or Return Merchandise for Purposes of Drawback on Customs

Form 7553 at least 5 working days prior to the date of intended return to Customs custody. Waiver of prior notice for exportations under 19 U.S.C. 1313(j) (see § 191.91 of this part) is inapplicable to exportations under 19 U.S.C. 1313(c).

(d) *Required Information.* The notice shall provide the bill of lading number, if known, the name and telephone number, mailing address, and, if available, fax number and e-mail address of a contact person, and the location of the merchandise.

(e) *Decision to waive examination.* Within two (2) working days after receipt of the Notice of Intent to Export, Destroy, or Return Merchandise for Purposes of Drawback (see paragraph (c) of this section), Customs will notify, in writing, the party designated on the Notice of Customs decision to either examine the merchandise to be exported or destroyed, or to waive examination. If Customs timely notifies the designated party, in writing, of its decision to examine the merchandise (see paragraph (f) of this section), but the merchandise is exported or destroyed without having been presented to Customs for such examination, any drawback claim, or part thereof, based on the Notice of Intent to Export, Destroy, or Return Merchandise for Purposes of Drawback, shall be denied. If Customs notifies the designated party, in writing, of its decision to waive examination of the merchandise, or, if timely notification of a decision by Customs to examine or to waive examination is absent, the merchandise may be exported or destroyed without delay and shall be deemed to have been returned to Customs custody.

(f) *Time and place of examination.* If Customs gives timely notice of its decision to examine the merchandise to be exported or destroyed, the merchandise to be examined shall be promptly presented to Customs. Customs shall examine the merchandise within five (5) working days after presentation of the merchandise. The merchandise may be exported or destroyed without examination if Customs fails to timely examine the merchandise after presentation to Customs, and in such case the merchandise shall be deemed to have been returned to Customs custody. If the examination is completed at a port